

H.R. 3493 Medical Devices Technical Corrections Act of 2003 and H.R. 1385 to extend the authorization for the United States Postal Service to issue a special postage stamp to benefit breast cancer research.

HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

HON. RAHM EMANUEL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 28, 2004

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Res. 492, a resolution honoring the contributions of Catholic schools and supporting the goals of Catholic Schools Week.

The accomplishments of Catholic schools and their tremendous impact on students and communities throughout the nation is evident in the Fifth Congressional District of Illinois, where schools like St. Ferdinand Catholic Elementary, St. Patrick High School, and Notre Dame High School for Girls provide a quality education while instilling values that will serve their students throughout their lives. These schools provide strong academic curriculums and engender significant parental involvement. They not only teach students the importance of academic achievement, but also provide a balanced perspective on life that promotes responsibility, justice and social service.

Catholic schools also promote ethnic and racial diversity. Increasing numbers of children in Catholic schools in my district come from our minority communities. Students in Catholic schools achieve exceptionally high graduation rates, with increasing numbers advancing to higher education and giving back to the community through volunteer service.

It is also important to recognize that the Catholic school experience fosters more than just scholastic excellence. It provides spiritual guidance to students by encouraging fundamental ideals and an appreciation for family values, community service, and faith in their own lives. This, in turn, shapes Catholic school students into leaders of tomorrow.

I want to take this opportunity to applaud the recent accomplishments of two teachers at a Catholic school in my district—Mother Theodore Guerin High School in River Grove, Illinois—who have been recognized for their outstanding service to their students and to their community. Sister Adelaide Ortegá received the Dr. Nathan Jones Special Achievement Award last October. This honor is awarded to educators for their outstanding work with African-American students. Sister Ortegá has taught Art for thirty years and is the sponsor of the African-American Club at Mother Guerin.

I also want to recognize Mary Stephany, a social science teacher at Mother Guerin who has been chosen as an Ambassador to Chicago's Field Museum for 2003–2004. In this role, Ms. Stephany will be a liaison for her school, serve on education advisory committees to the museum, and mentor other teachers.

I thank these two outstanding individuals as well as all of the dedicated Catholic school teachers in my district for their love of learning and their devotion to their students.

Mr. Speaker, I support this important resolution and encourage Catholic schools in my

district and across the United States to continue contributing to the development of strong moral, intellectual and social values in America's young people. I thank my colleague, Representative VITTER, for introducing this resolution, and I thank the National Catholic Educational Association and the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops for their sponsorship of Catholic Schools Week.

TRIBUTE TO MARK JOSEPH LUMER

HON. ROBERT E. (BUD) CRAMER, JR.

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 28, 2004

Mr. CRAMER. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize Mr. Mark J. Lumer of Huntsville, AL, for his 28 years of outstanding service in supporting the U.S. military, in particular, our soldiers in Kosovo, Bosnia, Afghanistan, and the Middle East. He is the Contracting Executive at the United States Army Space and Missile Defense Command, USASMD, in Huntsville, AL. I stand today to applaud Mark Lumer for his many years of service and loyalty in North Alabama's role in supporting our soldiers in the field.

Mark Lumer has risen through the ranks of the Federal Government and earned his current position as the Principal Assistant Responsible for Contracting at the USASMD Contracting and Acquisition Management Office with offices in Washington, DC; Huntsville, AL; Colorado Springs, CO; and Kwajalein Missile Range in the Marshall Islands. As the Director of Contracts, he oversees over \$14 billion in active contracts, annual expenditures of about \$2 billion and a staff of approximately 80.

Mark Lumer achieved the highest distinction in his field as a member of the Senior Executive Service when he was recognized by President Bush in 2001 with the "Presidential Meritorious Rank Award." In 2000, the Secretary of the Army presented Mr. Lumer with the "Decoration for Exceptional Civilian Service," the Army's highest civilian award. In addition, he has been recognized nationally for his contributions to the small business industry located in historically underutilized business zone (HUBZone) areas and received an award from the President of the National Institute of Severely Handicapped for his innovative contracting techniques that substantially increased job opportunities for handicapped individuals.

A native of New York, residing in both Virginia and Alabama, Mark Lumer has made Huntsville his home away from home. He has taken an active role in the Huntsville community serving as a board member of the U.S. Space and Rocket Center Foundation and the Space Center Museum Committee. In addition, Mark Lumer is a leader in the Huntsville community as a much sought after speaker for local organizations such as the Huntsville Association of Technical Societies, Huntsville Chapter of the National Contract Management Association, and the Huntsville Association of Small Business in Advanced Technology.

Among his many contributions to North Alabama, Mark Lumer is most recognized for his support to the small business community to include minority and women-owned businesses. He is also an advocate for historically black

colleges, universities, and minority institutions and ensures grants are awarded annually to these schools through local programs such as the Education and Employment for Technological Excellence in Aviation, Missiles, and Space.

I join his family, his wife Gail, his son Michael, his son-in-law Mo, his daughters Anne and Sarah, and friends and co-workers in congratulating him on a job well done. On behalf of the people of Alabama's 5th Congressional district, I want to express my gratitude to Mark for his extraordinary service to our community and our Nation.

HONORING COLONEL J. THOMAS MANGER, FAIRFAX COUNTY POLICE CHIEF

HON. TOM DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 28, 2004

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Mr. WOLF, and I rise today to honor Chief Tom Manger for 27 years of dedicated service to the Fairfax County Police Department (FCPD).

The FCPD is the largest local police department in the Commonwealth of Virginia, with 1,300 sworn and 500 civilian members. Manger first joined the FCPD in 1977 as a patrol officer. He quickly rose through the ranks, demonstrating great commitment to the safety and security of Fairfax County and the greater Washington, DC metropolitan area. Manger was promoted to deputy chief in 1995 and to acting chief in 1998. On January 10, 1999, the Fairfax Board of Supervisors appointed him chief of police.

Through impressive organization and development efforts, he brought officers closer to the people they serve, making community policing a top priority. Moreover, he held the department to the highest ethical policing standards, instituting a number of new policies to increase FCPD accountability to the public. Fairfax County's crime rate is the lowest in the country for a jurisdiction over one million people.

Over the past few years, Chief Manger has faced challenges ranging from hurricane flooding to anthrax scares. Under his leadership, the FCPD received the Fairfax County Human Rights Commission award for combating bias crimes. In 2002, when sniper shootings shocked the nation, Chief Manger tirelessly worked to capture and convict the two snipers for the murder of FBI employee Linda Franklin.

Throughout his accomplished career, Chief Manger has received numerous awards, including the Silver Medal of Valor. He significantly contributed to the FCPD tradition of excellence and will be greatly missed. We extend our heartfelt thanks for nearly three decades of service to Fairfax County and wish him the best of luck as police chief in Montgomery County, Maryland.

Mr. Speaker, Fairfax County's loss is Montgomery County's gain. Chief Manger is an outstanding police chief, and a shining example to all others in his field. We ask that our colleagues join us in applauding Chief Manger.